



Bee Campus USA Annual Report for 2018 Pollinator Conservation & Education



Nash Community College Rocky Mount, North Carolina

EDUCATION & OUTREACH



Earth Day and Arbor Day - April 16

Earth Day and Arbor Day were observed simultaneously on April 16, 2018. The event was spearheaded by Ken White (landscape specialist) and Christine Ricci (biology instructor). Bill Lewis of the U.S. Forest Service held a pollinator discussion and we planted a long-leaf pine tree in honor of Earth Day and Arbor Day.

Blue Fest - April 28

Blue Fest is an outreach opportunity that is open to the community. The Nash Community College Bee Campus Committee set up an expo at the picnic shelter on campus to educate the community about bees and pollinator friendly practices.



National Pollinator Week (STEM Camp) - June 25

National Pollinator Week was observed by a group of middle school students during a summer STEM camp lead by Lettie Allen. Students learned about pollinator friendly practices, the value of pollinators, and how to make pollinator homes.

POLLINATOR HEALTH & HABITAT

Nash Community College Pollinator Garden - The Nash Community College Bee Campus Committee, STEM Club, and local Boy Scouts took part in the establishment of the Nash Community College Pollinator Garden last spring (2018). The garden is located on the south side of campus, near the apiary, and was planted with native species. The Bee Campus Committee contributed a pollinator home to the garden.



In addition to the Pollinator Garden, the Nash Community College campus has a faculty/staff garden which is planted and attended by the campus faculty and staff. Flowers, vegetables, and herbs are planted and harvested year-round by faculty and staff.

POLICIES & PRACTICES

The Nash Community College Bee Campus committee is made up of faculty and staff who not only have a passion for bees and pollinators, but we also have certain skill-sets that help us to be knowledgeable about our endeavors. The college president, Dr. Bill Carver, has an agricultural degree from N.C. State University and personally selected the committee members. Lettie Allen is the chair of this committee. She has a masters in biology, is a certified bee keeper, and is responsible for grant-writing and committee endeavors. Ken White is the college landscape specialist and is an invaluable asset when it comes to our IPM plan, grounds-keeping, and plant selection. Ken is also a certified bee keeper and master gardener, and teaches continuing education horticulture classes. Christine Ricci is a biology instructor and a certified master gardener. She does a great job of incorporating pollinator information into the biology curriculum and is responsible for the activities and discussions that take place on Earth Day/Arbor Day. Tammy White is an accounting technician at the college and has several years of bee-keeping experience. She and her husband present bee-keeping demonstrations during our annual Blue Fest extravaganza. Adrian Covington is the college Vice President of Finance/CFO. Both Tammy and Adrian help manage the budget of the Bee Campus Committee. Members of this committee work diligently to promote pollinator awareness and pollinator-friendly practices around campus and in the community, but we also rely heavily on the assistance from local volunteers, clubs, and students. We are very thankful for the support of individuals who share our love for pollinators and conservation. These individuals are selflessly willing to help us carry out endeavors and achieve our committee goals.

Recommended Locally Native Plant Species List—<http://ncbg.unc.edu/recommended-sources-of-native-plants/>

Regional Native Plant Suppliers List—<http://ncbg.unc.edu/recommended-sources-of-native-plants/>

Pollinator-Friendly Integrated Pest Management Plan—<https://ipm.ces.ncsu.edu/ipm-honey-bees/>

SERVICE-LEARNING



Austin Harrell is a high school student who contributed to the development of the Nash Community College Pollinator Garden and added an additional bee hive to the college apiary as a part of his Eagle Scout project. Austin and members of his troop raised funds to help purchase a hive and several native plants that were placed in the garden. He worked with the college landscape specialist, Ken White, to determine the garden's design and what plants to purchase. Austin worked with the staff, faculty, and STEM club members to plant the garden, which was established in the spring of 2018. Leftover funds that were not used for the pollinator garden were donated to the Nash Community College Bee Campus

Committee to be used in other pollinator protection endeavors.

CURRICULUM

- Continuing Education: HOR 245 (Spring 2018) - Horticulture - 20 students/Target audience: local citizens
- For-Credit: BIO 110 (Spring and Fall 2018) - Principles of Biology - 100 students/Target audience: students pursuing a non-science degree
- For-Credit: BIO 112 (Spring and Fall 2018) - General Biology II - 50 students/Target audience: students pursuing a degree in science
- Ken White, the college landscape specialist, teaches a Continuing Education Horticulture course. This course targets local citizens. Along with landscaping and groundskeeping practices, students learn about important local pollinators and their habitats. They also learn about safe pest management practices.
- Lettie Allen, a biology instructor, incorporates pollinator behavioral studies and plant and pollinator relationships into the General Biology II (BIO 112) curriculum.



Christine Ricci, a biology instructor, includes pollinator studies and pollinator habitat preservation into the Principles of Biology curriculum (BIO 110). As a part of this course, she and Ken White introduce students to bee keeping and their importance as pollinators.

EDUCATIONAL SIGNAGE



The Nash Community College Bee Campus USA Committee posted permanent informative signs at the apiary and pollinator garden. The purpose of these signs is to draw attention to the presence of the apiary and pollinator garden, and state our affiliation with Bee Campus USA. Other signs are moved around campus to remind individuals about pollinator friendly practices, i.e. "Please forgive our tall grass. We are feeding the pollinators." There are also "Bee Crossing" signs near the apiary to inform students of its location. The apiary is being relocated to the northwest side of campus due to a kudzu bug infestation. The signs will be re-posted once the apiary is in place.

CONTACT US!

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